

at its founding has been stymied by its massive, uncoordinated growth. Fortunately, a consensus appears to be building that the United Nations needs to reform in order to be a viable institution. As Secretary-General Annan noted, "a reformed United Nations will be a more relevant United Nations in the eyes of the world." To this end, the United States must help shape the United Nations to be an organization that the United States needs as much as the United Nations needs the United States.

In an effort to push the United Nations toward reform, the Senate has passed a comprehensive package that links the payment of arrears to the achievement of reform benchmarks. These are achievable, common-sense reforms. We are calling for a code of conduct with an anti-nepotism provision; a mechanism to sunset outdated and unnecessary programs; and transparency in the budget process. We do not need to micro-manage the United Nations, but we need to make sure a proper structure is in place for the United Nations to be able to manage itself.

We must pay our arrears to the United Nations. In doing so, however, we should put the arrears in perspective. Throughout the history of the United Nations, the United States has always been its most generous donor. The United States contributes around \$2 billion to U.N. organizations and activities every year. This is three times more generous than any other permanent member of the Security Council. I do not believe success in any of the areas where the United Nations excels would be possible without a high level of U.S. support.

The U.S. mission will have a difficult job implementing reforms when a massive U.N. bureaucracy and numerous member states have a vested interest in resisting reform and maintaining the status quo. And I recognize the U.S. mission's job is more difficult without the arrears package signed into law. But Ambassador Holbrooke has shown that it can be done. He has already won a seat for an American on the budget committee of the United Nations and is making progress in getting our assessment rates reduced.

As I renew my commitment to champion the arrears package in the Congress, I want to underscore that the reforms proposed by the United States are critical to ensure the United Nations is effective and relevant. Any reforms that improve the effectiveness of the United Nations must be viewed in this light. We must reform the United Nations now and the United States has the responsibility to play a major role. If we do nothing, and the United Nations collapses under its own weight, then we will have only ourselves to blame.●

A SAND COUNTY ALMANAC

● Mr. FEINGOLD. I rise to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the publi-

cation of Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac*. The publication of this work has been celebrated in my home state throughout 1999, most recently with a major national conference on the future of the land ethic at the beginning of this month. However, October 27, 1949 is the date that Oxford Press released the first edition of the book.

Aldo Leopold is considered to be the father of wildlife ecology. He was a renowned scientist and scholar, exceptional teacher, philosopher, and gifted writer. It is for this book, *A Sand County Almanac*, that Leopold is best known by millions of people around the globe. The book has been acclaimed as the century's literary landmark in conservation. It led to a philosophy that has guided many to discovering what it means to live in harmony with the land.

When Leopold died in 1948, he had yet to see his *Sand County Almanac* in print, and it was through the efforts of his son Luna that the first version of *A Sand County Almanac* was made available to the public.

Aldo Leopold's authority as a philosopher of conservation came from a lifelong love of wilderness and the recognition of his need to be surrounded by "things natural, wild, and free." Upon graduation from Yale University, Leopold went to work for the United States Forest Service in 1909, helped to found the Wilderness Society, and in 1924 was responsible for the institution, through administrative action, of the first of the United States' Wilderness Areas, the Gila National Forest in New Mexico. From 1933 until his death, Leopold held a chair in game management at the University of Wisconsin.

Although Leopold's love of the land is apparent in the book, his book does not cry out in defense of particular tracts of land about to go under the axe or plow. Rather Leopold deals with the minutiae of often unnoticed plants and animals, all the little things that one might overlook in the task of managing lands but which must be present to add up to healthy ecosystems.

Part I of *A Sand County Almanac* is devoted to the details of a single piece of land: Leopold's 120-acre property in central Wisconsin, abandoned as a working farm years before because of the prevalence of sandy soil from which the "Sand Counties" took their nickname. It was at this weekend retreat, Leopold says, "that we try to rebuild, with shovel and axe, what we are losing elsewhere."

Month by month, Leopold leads the reader through the progression of the seasons with descriptions of such things as skunk tracks, the songs, habits, and attitudes of dozens of bird species, cycles of high water in the river, the timely appearance and blooming of several plants, and the joys of cutting one's own firewood. Part of Leopold's request, toward the end of the book, that we attach values to the things in nature that have no apparent economic

worth. At the time Leopold's Wisconsin sand farm itself was economically valueless because of its unsuitability for crops, timber or pasture. However, from Leopold's essays one comes to realize that here is a parcel of land that is anything but worthless; the property that yields to its owner the multitude of joys and insights that Leopold describes is a rich piece of ground indeed.

In Part II of *A Sand County Almanac*, titled "The Quality of Landscape," Leopold takes his reader away from the farm; first into the surrounding Wisconsin countryside and then even farther. Leopold describes an Illinois bus ride, a visit to the Iowa of his boyhood, on to Arizona and New Mexico where he first worked with the U.S. Forest Service, across the southern border into Chihuahua and Sonora, Mexico, north to Oregon and Utah, and finally travel across the northern border into Manitoba, Canada.

In each of these places, Leopold outlines the natural history of the region. Leopold understood the difficulty of the choices before us, and certainly knew the paradox with which we are faced: "But all conservation of wilderness is self-defeating," he writes, "for to cherish we must see and fondle, and when we have seen and fondled, there is no wilderness left to cherish."

In the final pages of *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold introduces the concept of a "land ethic" and a plea that such an ethic be adopted. Leopold defines philosophical ethics as "the differentiation of social from anti-social conduct" for the common good of the community, and declares that a land ethic, wherein the ecologies in which we erect our developments would be considered an integral part of the community, amounts to the same thing as social ethics. A land ethic, in the author's terms, means a "willing limitation on freedom of action in the struggle for survival."

A Sand County Almanac was not written specifically for wilderness activists. It was written for everyone, regardless of vocation. I recommend this book to colleagues not only because it is enjoyable, but also because it raises important questions that the Senate will eventually be forced to address. As members of the Senate, the decisions we will make regarding land use are critically important. The responsibility is there, as well as the rewards, for those who seek to conduct themselves in a fashion consistent with Leopold's vision.

A Sand County Almanac continues to inspire new generations of Americans to take up the cause of conservation. And 50 years later, the land ethic continues to serve as the guiding beacon for American conservation policy. We do well in the Senate to mark this Anniversary, and to dedicate ourselves to Leopold's legacy.●

COMMENDING PATRICIA MOULTON POWDEN AND SUE DAVENPORT

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise to commend the service of Patricia Moulton Powden and Sue Davenport, two New Englanders who are ending their terms on the Board of Directors for the Northeast-Midwest Institute. Both have provided exceptional service to the Institute, and in the process helped to improve our region's economic development and environmental quality. The Northeast-Midwest Institute provides policy analysis for the bipartisan Northeast-Midwest Senate Coalition, which I co-chair with Senator Daniel Patrick MOYNIHAN from New York.

Patricia Moulton Powden is a fellow Vermonter who has served for the past 4 years as Treasurer of the Northeast-Midwest Institute's Board of Directors. In that capacity, she provided careful oversight and helped the group's finances improve significantly. Within Vermont, Patricia is executive director of the Springfield Regional Development Corporation. She also has served as Commissioner of Economic Development for the State of Vermont and Director of the St. Johnsbury Area Economic Development Office.

Sue Davenport has performed a variety of public service activities throughout New England. Currently, she is Executive Director of the Spurwink Schools-New Hampshire, which provide residential/day treatment programs for youngsters with emotional and behavioral handicaps, and their families. She has served as Commissioner of mental health and mental retardation for the State of Maine; adjunct faculty member at Suffolk University; Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and Acting Director of HHS's Regional Administrative Support Center.

Mr. President, I again want to thank these distinguished New Englanders for their leadership on the Northeast-Midwest Institute's Board of Directors. They have provided valued service and helped increase that organization's reputation and effectiveness.●

IN HONOR OF HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to join with thousands of Americans who this month are celebrating Head Start Awareness Month.

There are few federal programs like Head Start. Since its creation in 1965, this marvelous program has provided comprehensive education, health, social and nutritional services to over 17 million young children and their families. Today, over 835,000 children are involved in Head Start, benefitting from the commitment of nearly 170,000 staff people and just over 2,000 Head Start agencies nationwide.

Head Start is clearly much more than a program. It is a community or-

ganized around the principle that we must together take care of our young children. Head Start brings together parents, teachers and others in the community to support young children and meet their needs. Sometimes that means health screenings and eye glasses; other times it means linking a parent up with job training services. The actions are diverse but the effects are the same—enriching and improving the child's life.

Next year, we will celebrate the 35th anniversary of this powerful program. And there is clearly much to celebrate. The anniversary will also provide us with an appropriate opportunity to reflect on Head Start and consider how to continue to promote, improve and expand this crucial program. In some ways, we began this process last year with the enactment of the 1998 Head Start reauthorization bill. This legislation increased support for additional staff training and professional development, authorized further research into the long term benefits of Head Start, improved program accountability measures, and expanded Early Head Start to serve more infants and toddlers, laying a strong foundation for Head Start in the next century.

However, I believe there remains unfinished business with Head Start. Most notably, the program still serves just 40 percent of those eligible. The President has proposed the laudable goal of serving one million children by 2002—but I think we must do more. We must also look to Head Start for further models of how to serve young children. For the last 35 years, the program has been a laboratory for the development of practices that are now commonplace in child care and preschool programs across the country. We must continue to build on the success of Head Start to better serve Head Start children as well as other young children.

One of our key partners in this effort is the National Head Start Association (NHSA). This organization is the voice of Head Start, representing parents, children and staff. Beyond being an active advocate for young children and Head Start, NHSA is focused on a strong and vibrant future for Head Start, providing technical assistance, professional development opportunities, training tools and policy guidance to programs across the country. I am honored to join with NHSA and all in the Head Start community to celebrate Head Start Awareness Month—October 1999.●

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: Nos. 294 through 320, and all nominations on the

Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

John F. Potter, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences for a term expiring May 1, 2005.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

A.J. Eggenberger, of Montana, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2003.

Jessie M. Robertson, of Alabama, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2002.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The following named officer for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 154:

To be general

Gen. Richard B. Myers, 7092

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following Air national Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Harold A. Cross, 0000

Brig. Gen. Paul J. Sullivan, 0000

To be brigadier general

Col. Dwayne A. Alons, 0000

Col. Richard W. Ash, 0000

Col. George J. Cannelos, 0000

Col. James E. Cunningham, 0000

Col. Myron N. Dobashi, 0000

Col. Juan A. Garcia, 0000

Col. John J. Hartnett, 0000

Col. Steven R. McCamy, 0000

Col. Roger C. Nafzinger, 0000

Col. George B. Patrick III, 0000

Col. Martha T. Rainville, 0000

Col. Samuel M. Shiver, 0000

Col. Robert W. Sullivan, 0000

Col. Gary H. Wilfong, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Charles H. Coolidge, Jr., 0000

The following named officer for appointment as Surgeon General of the Air Force and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 8036:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Paul K. Carlton, Jr., 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Charles F. Wald, 0000